



**PROJECT:** Wolf Lake, Hammond, Indiana

**AUTHORITY:** Section 419 of the 1996 Water Resources Development Act

**STUDY SCOPE:**

\* Section 419, WRDA 96: "...conduct a study and report on a methodology and a schedule for restoring wetlands at Wolf Lake and George Lake in Hammond, Ind."

\* HR 24; CR 27: "...initiate and complete a reconnaissance study of alternatives for restoring the environmental quality of Wolf and George Lakes in Indiana."

**CURRENT STATUS:** Congress added \$100,000 in the FY99 budget to complete a reconnaissance study. The Chicago District Engineer initiated the reconnaissance study December 1998, the report was completed in July 2000 and approved by HQUSACE in September 2000. The reconnaissance report concluded that Wolf Lake ecosystem is degraded and that it is in the Federal interest to restore the Lake. The report recommends initiating the feasibility phase for Wolf Lake. Lake George's ecosystem is also degraded but since the lake is privately owned it is not in the Federal interest to restore the ecosystem

**PLANNED WORK:**

**FY 00**

\* Complete the reconnaissance phase of the study and execute the Feasibility Cost Sharing Agreement.

**FY 01**

\* There are no funds in the President's Budget to continue work on this project. If additional funds in the amount of \$200,000 were provided, they could be used to initiate the feasibility study.

**STUDY COST:**

\* Reconnaissance phase will cost \$100,000 and will be 100 percent Federal

\* The cost estimate of the feasibility phase is \$750,000 which will be cost shared 50 percent Federal and 50 percent non-Federal. If the study includes the Illinois portion of Wolf Lake, the feasibility phase cost estimate is \$800,000.

**LOCAL SPONSOR:** Hammond Park District is the sponsor for the Indiana portion of the Wolf Lake study. Illinois Department of Natural Resources is considering being the non-Federal sponsor for the Illinois portion of the lake.

**ISSUES/CONCERNS:** None

**CONTRACTOR:** N/A

**PROJECT MANAGER:** Kirston Buczak